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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR.

16 July 1953

SUBJECT

HV Funk Material Supply Situation

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1

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SOURCE

1. Because HV-Funk of the East German Ministry for Post and Telecommunications has exhausted all other possible methods of procuring copper and nickel for radio and telecommunications production, First Deputy HV Director Walter Zander has been made liaison man with the SCC. Zander, a member of the Free Germany Committee in Moscow during the war, deals with Slussarev (fnu), a Russian. The latter has the assignment of testing and supervising production of nonferrous metals in East Germany, especially at SAG-Marten, Hottstedt. Slussarev is also the chief liaison officer to HV-Funk. He promised Zander that he was willing to look into the supply of nonferrous metals.
2. Zander also attempted to contact the deputy chief of USIG, Krutko, but had been unsuccessful as of 23 April 1953.
3. It has been mentioned unofficially in the Central Committee of the SED that a special ministry or independent state secretariat for radio affairs is planned. State Secretary Schroeder (fnu) is reportedly against this move on the grounds that it would not be staffed with qualified technical personnel. Related to this is the problem of plants working on radio equipment which are under the direction of the Ministry for General Machine Construction. It is thought, however, that it would be very difficult to put these factories, such as the RFT complex, under the new organ, since they overlap in matters of production and raw material procurement.
4. Further progress has not been made in the procurement of thoriated tungsten wire.^{1/} Zauner (fnu) has been directed to give Minitec^{2/} GmbH a price quotation. If Zauner proves unable to deliver the desired wire, an attempt will be made to procure substitute tubes from the firm of Telefunken.

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Comment. Minitec should probably be Meletex, the SED illegal East-West trade complex.

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